



ABSTRACT

- A contrast improving sheet to be disposed on the viewing side of a display, such as a rear projection display or a liquid crystal display, to display images in high contrast and in excellent directivity, and a rear projection screen provided with the contrast improving sheet are provided.—A contrast improving sheet 11—includes a first optical functional element 1—and a second optical functional element 2—disposed on the viewing side thereof—the first optical functional element 1—is provided with has a plurality of protrusions, 3—arranged in a direction or distributed in a plane.
- 5 10 Each of the protrusions 3—has each having a pair of opposite total-reflection facets 5—for totally reflecting image light rays substantially perpendicularly incident on the entrance surface and a flat facet 6—extending between the front edges, on the side of the exit surface, of the pair of opposite total-reflection facets 5. Light absorbing layers 7—are formed in V grooves—between the adjacent protrusions 3. The second optical functional element 2—is provided with has a light path correcting layer 9—for correcting light paths followed by the image light rays totally reflected by the total-reflection facets 5—of the protrusions 3—such that the image light rays are emitted through the exit surface substantially perpendicularly to the exit surface. The light path correcting layer 9—has a plurality of alternately inclined planes 8—inclined in opposite directions, respectively, and the inclined planes 8—inclined in opposite directions are arranged alternately.
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